

Linking Tibbies Across the World

The Tibetan Spaniel Network Pedigree Database

by

Susan Waller Miccio



Did you know that there's a free, searchable online database that contains the pedigrees of over 28,000 Tibbies from countries all over the world?

It's called the Tibetan Spaniel Network Pedigree Database, and it's the brainchild of Tibbie lover Deb Henson. She started the database to satisfy her own curiosity about her first two Tibbies.

"I wanted to see the journey their blood took before they came to me," Deb says.

However, as the database grew, it evolved from a personal project to a mission. Today, it gives the worldwide Tibetan Spaniel community a central source of both pedigree and health information and has the potential to grow even more.

Deb began building the database in 1995. She started by entering 3,000 pedigrees drawn from sources including books by writers such as Ann Wynyard, champion books from clubs in the U.K., Sweden and the U.S.A., the American Kennel Club Stud Books, copies of registration certificates and show catalogs.

In 1997, Jan Allinder's Tibetan Spaniel Network brought the database to the world. Today, Deb maintains the database, while Jan keeps it up and running on <http://tibbies.net/pedigrees/>.

"Without Jan's web design skills, it would never have made it online," says Deb. "It is a service we both provide to the Tibetan Spaniel community."

What makes the Tibetan Spaniel Network Pedigree Database also a health database?

Along the way, the pedigree database was joined to another database that stored health information. By integrating pedigree data with data on cases of Progressive Retinal

Atrophy (PRA), an inherited disease, the database became a health research resource to Tibbie breeders worldwide.

At first, the PRA data came from the International Tibetan Spaniel Working Party (ITSWP), a group that collected and disseminated PRA information with the goal of reducing or eliminating the disease in Tibbies.

However, the ITSWP is no longer active, and Deb now counts on owners and breeders to voluntarily report PRA cases and the results of eye tests. For example, when breeders report a clear test result for PRA3 (the only type of PRA for which a genetic test currently exists), the database will also show any offspring as PRA3 clear if both parents were tested and clear.

"Annual eye testing and reporting are still important," Deb cautions, "because there could be affected dogs that are not noted as such in the database."

Additional Health Information is Welcome

The database's usefulness as a health resource depends on owners and breeders reporting health information on their Tibbies so that the data can be incorporated with the pedigrees. Deb believes that documenting the diseases that affect the Tibetan Spaniel breed is important.

"The pedigrees show all health data that I have been given," she says. "I will list any inherited or genetic health problem given to me that affects the breed in general. No one has submitted specific cancers, but I think it would be very useful to have that information. One owner submitted her dog affected with Progressive Nephropathy, a renal disease. She and the breeder asked that both the sire and dam be noted also."

It's a small Tibbie World. Sharing health data through international cooperation is important.

"Health information is what makes this online database unique," Deb says. "I would love to have more participation, including cause of death. It would benefit the entire breed."

Continued on next page





How does the database help someone who owns, or is considering, a pet Tibbie?

Before you decide on a Tibetan Spaniel, you should research the breed and learn as much as you can about Tibbie health, temperament, and characteristics... they all determine how well you can live with a dog.

Many online and print resources, such as <http://tibbies.net/> and <http://wp.tasca.ws/> are readily available to help you decide whether a Tibbie is the right dog for you.

The database can provide your Tibbie's family tree. Just as those who study the genealogy of their own families are often surprised by what they find, you may be surprised by what you discover about your Tibbie. For example, Deb was fascinated to learn that her first Tibbie, Tashi Tim-Ra, was only 10 generations out of Tibet. [See *Timmy's pedigree on page 3*]

You can also see how many kennels it took to produce your dog and how many champions and countries your Tibbie's ancestors came from. In some pedigrees, colors and photos may be included.

If you see PRA annotations in your Tibbie's pedigree, don't panic. Your puppy's breeder should have researched the parents' pedigrees and done the necessary genetic testing before breeding. The chart at:

<http://tibbies.net/health-care/pr-a-probability-chart/> shows the statistical chance that a Tibbie may be affected. [See *Patches' pedigree on page 4*]

Please remember that loss of vision, whether due to aging or some other reason, is fairly common in dogs. Dogs who cannot see are easy to care for and can live long and happy lives.



Who can contribute pedigrees to the database? How?

Anyone can submit a pedigree, just as anyone can use the database! Most pedigrees come from breeders or owners

of show Tibbies, chiefly in Sweden and Denmark, followed by Norway, Finland and Australia. Far fewer come from the U.S. and U.K.

If you own a Tibbie who is not in the database, you can enter your Tibbie using the registration form or pedigree that you received from the breeder or prior owner.

If you are a breeder who uses *Breedmate* or *PedX* and you share your database with Deb, she will add your pedigrees into the database for you.

To submit a pedigree, see: <http://tibbies.net/pedigrees/pedigree-submission/>. Deb notes that you will have to register since that's the only way to keep out spammers. If you have any questions or problems with submissions, contact Deb at deb@tibbies.net.

Although Deb checks all submissions before they go online, she urges you to be careful in keying your pedigrees—especially spelling! If necessary, she will contact you for more information or clarification.

She also suggests checking the pedigrees you submit for errors. You can submit a correction at <http://tibbies.net/pedigrees/corrections-additions/>.



What's in the future for the Pedigree Database?

As things now stand, the database has progressed to the point where a pedigree can be as comprehensive or as simple as the person submitting it wants it to be.

"Those who submit the information are in the driver's seat now," Deb says. "This database can be a tool to breed healthier Tibbies. Please make it so."

From Deb's personal perspective, the pedigree database has been a labor of Tibbie love spanning more than 20 years of her life. She wonders when and how she will be able to pass it on.

"It's been fascinating, frustrating, and addictive," she says. "It's pretty personal...I have so much time and money invested in it. Sometimes I wonder what's the point? Does any of it matter? Does anyone care? But then, out of the blue, someone will submit their kennel or say something nice, so I keep plugging away. *I love these dogs so much.*"

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Continued on next two pages—see sample pedigree files.



Timmy's 4-generation pedigree includes some photos.






Tashi Tim-Ra

[M], 1983-10-19, NS899576, Sable

[Pedigree] [Pedigree w/o Links] [Vertical Pedigree] [Siblings] [Offspring] [Reverse Pedigree]
United States



**Tibetan
Spaniel
Network**

<p>TSCA/AKC CH Braeduke Nam-Ra 1979-12-19 NS789193 Sable</p> 	<p>UK CH Kensing Ra, JW Dark Wolf Sable</p>	<p>Tangwell Gu Cham Midas 27061</p>	<p>UK CH Windameres Braeduke Champa 1970-02-10 Gold</p>	
		<p>UK CH Kensing Ri-Tse Gold / Black Mask</p>	<p>Tangwell Gubi-Glops, CC 1970-09-19</p>	
	<p>UK CH Braeduke Whitewisp Hara Nor 1970-07-08 110843/70 Sable</p>	<p>UK CH Braeduke Channa 1967-12-10 Sable</p>	<p>Kensing Ana Rak Of Amross 1967-10-31 3743/68</p>	<p>UK CH Kensing Tibskips Re-Sa 1970-01-09 Gold / White Markings</p>
		<p>Braeduke Koko Nor 1968-09-13</p>	<p>UK CH Sivas Ten-Sing Of Myarlune 1961-11-01 Light Red</p>	<p>UK CH Braeduke Tam Cho, ROM 1965-04-04 Gold Sable</p>
<p>TSCA CH Tashi Cha La Bala 1981-05-28 NS789720 Black & Tan</p> 	<p>TSCA/AKC CH Braeduke Nam-Ra 1979-12-19 NS789193 Sable</p>	<p>UK CH Kensing Ra, JW Dark Wolf Sable</p>	<p>Tangwell Gu Cham Midas 27061</p>	
		<p>UK CH Braeduke Whitewisp Hara Nor 1970-07-08 110843/70 Sable</p>	<p>UK CH Kensing Ri-Tse Gold / Black Mask</p>	
	<p>TSCA CH Tritou Charlotte, ROM 1978-07-02 NS789150 Sable / White Markings</p> 	<p>UK CH Braeduke Channa 1967-12-10 Sable</p>	<p>UK CH Braeduke Channa 1967-12-10 Sable</p>	<p>Braeduke Koko Nor 1968-09-13</p>
		<p>Braeduke Koko Nor 1968-09-13</p>	<p>Truly Scrumptious Of Tritou 27791</p>	<p>Farmway Black Jade 27426</p>
	<p>Benagh Rue 27851</p>	<p>Medrey's Win-A-Too 1977-08-09 C08</p>	<p>UK CH Braeduke Nimmi Deep Gold Sable</p>	<p>Clawson Me-Tsag 1971-01-08</p>
		<p>Benagh Rue 27851</p>	<p>UK CH Braeduke Nimmi Deep Gold Sable</p>	<p>Clawson Me-Tsag 1971-01-08</p>

*Continued on next page—
see another sample pedigree file.*



*Patches' pedigree is annotated with PRA carriers.
The color coding shows dogs that repeat in his line.*

	<p align="center">AKC CH Patchouli Panda Of Alan-Li (M), NM283968/01, Parti-Color [Pedigree] [Pedigree w/o Links] [Vertical Pedigree] [Siblings] [Offspring] [Reverse Pedigree] United States </p>				
<p>AKC/EST/NORD CH Of Zlazano Zikkim Gold / White Markings PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>	<p>INT/NORD CH Of Zlazano Zharlie Zhaplin SF19239H/83PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>	<p>INT/FIN/SWD CH Zollis Inter-Mez-Zo</p>	<p>INT/NORD CH Zollis A-Bra-Ham S14299/78PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>		
	<p>INT/NORD CH Of Zlazano Zindy</p>	<p>Of Zlazano Zasika</p>	<p>Braeduke Cu-Li Cu-Cu 27303</p>	<p>INT/NORD CH Braeduke Oso Panda DOB: 1977-10-18, C07</p>	
		<p>INT/NORD CH Of Zlazano Zalentino SF121066/74</p>	<p>Of Zlazano Zafra</p>	<p>TSCA/AKC CH Braeduke Dung-Ka ROMX NS789163/TS, Ruby Red / White Markings, PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>	<p>Wildhern A-Rabella DOB: 1972-10-12, PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>
		<p>Of Zlazano Zoraima DOB: 1973-07-31 SF23207F/73, Sable</p>	<p>INT/NORD CH Huntiglen Rampa DOB: 1969-03-16</p>	<p>Of Zlazano Zandra</p>	
<p>Santera Kissa Mi</p>	<p>AKC CH Santera Ken Yuki DOB: 1987-11-08, Cream & White</p>	<p>AKC CH Phylmarko Shan-Hu ROM DOB: 1980-03-09 NS789586, Gold Sable / White Markings</p>	<p>TSCA/AKC CH Braeduke Dung-Ka ROMX NS789163/TS, Ruby Red / White Markings, PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>		
		<p>AKC CH Santera Ken Ra Lee DOB: 1984-12-11, Sable / White Markings</p>	<p>Phylmarko Hua-Su ROM DOB: 1978-01-15, NS789488, Sable / White Markings</p>	<p>AKC/UK CH Kensing Rusk ROMX DOB: 1981-07-12, G01, Gold / Black Mask, PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>	<p>Bev's Le Fei Dom V Bb</p>
	<p>Santera Kes Sa Lee ROM DOB: 1986-04-21 NT124078, Sable / White Markings</p>	<p>AKC/UK CH Kensing Rusk ROMX DOB: 1981-07-12 G01, Gold / Black Mask PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>	<p>Kensing Marmaduke CC DOB: 1979-05-28, D10PRODUCED A PRA CARRIER</p>	<p>UK CH Kensing Rosie Pale Gold / Black Mask</p>	
		<p>Bev's Le Fei Dom V Bb</p>	<p>Tashi Ali Kum Ra DOB: 1982-02-04, NS789766, Black & Tan / White Markings</p>	<p>Tashi Ber-Na DOB: 1982-04-07, NS789788, Black & Tan / White Markings</p>	

Check out the Tibetan Spaniel Pedigree Database and discover your Tibbie's family tree!

